'Quickdisc+' Cartridge

OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

"QUICKDISC+" CARTRIDGE

The Quickdisc+ cartridge provides load and save facilities that are 5 - 7 times faster than normal, abbreviated disk commands which are summarised later, and the following utilities: 20 second Format; 3 minute Disk Backup (Unprotected Disk Only); Selective fast file copier; Centronics interface (user port) and a reset switch which is unstoppable (as far as we know).

All utilities will operate with a Commodore printer connected and with either Disc Drive device numbers.

The cartridge does not affect user memory in any way by using advanced cartridge switching techniques developed on the Isle of Wight.

SUMMARY OF COMMANDS

@ COMMAND = Abreviated disk commands.

eg @S :NAME	Scratch File
@R :NEWNAME=OLDNAME	Rename File
@V	Validate Disk
@N :NAME	Renew Disk
@I	Initialize Drive
@N : Disk name,ID	Format disk in 20 seconds.
@B	3 minute disk backup.
@C	Selective fast file copier.

Note: Pressing RUN/STOP at any time will start the backup process.

@P	Centronics interface.
@E	Exit centronics interface.

Note: Always exit centronics before carrying on with other work.

@H	Help menu.
@Q	Quit cartridge.
$	Load and display directory to screen only.
@	Disk status.
/NAME	Load to Basic.
%NAME	Load to file address.
^NAME	Load to Basic and Run.
<NAME	Save.
£	Change default drive from 8 to 9.
SYS 56904	Restart cartridge.
SPACE BAR	Pause directory listing.

FUNCTION KEYS

The function keys have been programmed for the following commands...

F1	LIST
F3	RUN
F5	LOAD"0:*",8,1
F7	DISPLAY DIRECTORY

CENTRONICS

After the centronic interface is switched in using the @P command, output files for the printer must be opened as normal using the command OPEN F,D,S where F = File No. (1 to 255), D = Device No. (4 or 5) and S = Secondary Address (7 or miss out).

As displayed on the screen when the @P command is used the following special open commands apply:

File Nos. 128 - 255	: Give an extra line feed.
Device 4	: Gives CBM graphics
Device 5	: Gives normal centronics printout
Secondary Address 7	: Lower case characters

Note: When using device 4 the contents of the tape buffer will be corrupted.

RESET SWITCH

The reset switch on the cartridge cannot be stopped by software and does not clear the data buffers below the normal screen memory. To preserve the buffer areas from $0200 to $033C hold down the RUN/STOP key while reset is pressed.

An "OLD" feature is provided by performing @O after a reset, this will restore a BASIC program.

Note: After using the reset it will be necessary to switch the computer off and on to load protected software.

OPERATION WITH TWO DRIVES

The device number of the second drive must be changed physically or by using the Disk address change program given with the drive at the time of purchase. The £ command will switch the default drive number used by the cartridge between 8 and 9. This will enable all the cartridge utilites to be used with the second drive.

MACHINE CODE PROGRAMMING

Quickdisc+ will work with most machine code monitors.

THE SAVE COMMAND

The cartridge save command will always save the contents of the RAM behind the system ROMs. This means that data files can be loaded to and saved directly from under the Kernal ROM. The cartridge must be switched out to save the contents of the system ROMs.

A cure for the well known "SAVE AT" bug is also included, this can be used by saving in the following manner.

SAVE"@:NAME",8

Hardware design by G. Elliot
Software written by A. Ager
Produced and distributed by Evesham Micros